starting from Nallasopara to be increased to meet the increasing growth of population in the areas; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering their request and by when a decision in this regard is going to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 40 additional local services (12-car) have been introduced during 2007-2008 in Virar sector, which also serve Virar/Nallasopara and Vasai Road.

Introduction of local trains from Nallasopara is not feasible as this is not a natural terminal for starting trains.

Further, introduction of trains inluding local trains (EMU) is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources.

Bullet trains

78. SHRI T. T. V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to run bullet trains between Chennai and Madurai and Chennai and Coimbatore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Encroachment on Railway lands

79. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that presently there are 1.59 lakh cases of encroachment on Railway's land of which over 39,700 cases are pending in the courts under the Public Premises Eviction Act, 1971;

(b) if so, in how many such cases Railways have got physical possession of land during the last five years; and

(c) whether the provisions of the Public Premises Eviction Act are adequate to deal with such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As on 31.03.2007 there were approximately 1.47 lakh number of encroachments on Railway land and 24909 number of cases were pending in the courts under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

(b) In 27626 number of cases Railways have got physical possession of land during the last five years ending 31.03.2007.

(c) The provisions of the Act are more or less adequate, however, there is need for some amendments to make the Act more effective.